



NOVEMBER 2017  
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Happy  
Thanksgiving

# THE LION'S ROAR NEWSPAPER

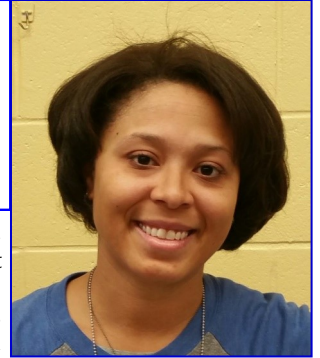


CHRISTIAN HILLS SCHOOL  
A MINISTRY OF  
CHRISTIAN HILLS CHURCH



Getting to Know...

## Mrs. Disser



Mrs. Disser is no stranger to teaching. Before coming to Christian Hills, she spent several years as a preschool and kindergarten teacher. She was even the principal at a small Christian school! When asked how it is teaching at Christian Hills, she replied, "Teaching at Christian Hills is awesome. I love my classroom, and they're fun." Mrs. Disser is hoping to teach at Christian Hills "as long as they will have me." She thinks being a teacher is fun. She says it's a lot of hard work, but it's nothing she can't handle. Mrs. Disser has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and a Masters Degree in Human Resource Management.

When she isn't teaching at CHS, she's singing worship with the Christian Hills Church Worship Team or helping plan fun events for the ladies of the church. She also enjoys reading and writing her own books in her spare time. Family is one of the most important things to Mrs. Disser and the students and teachers at CHS are a big part of that family.

by Cameron Disser, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

## CHS Then and Now

### An Interview with Two Past Alumni



I had the opportunity to interview my uncle (Justin Kane) and my mom (Nicole Balaskas). They both attended and graduated from CHS. My uncle's favorite teacher was Mrs. VanderSchaaf. She would take my uncle and his best friend out to Chuck E. Cheese's each month, because he said they were her "favorite" students! My mom's favorite teacher was Mrs. Robertson because she made learning fun, especially science! They both had the same principal, which was Loretta Malmgren, who also started CHS back in 1978. My mom was a part of the very first 8th grade class to graduate in 1992. Both my mom and uncle said the gym class was much harder when they attended here. They started doing the President's Physical Fitness Challenge. They would have to see how fast they could run a mile, how many push ups and sits up they could do, how many chin ups and pull ups, too. They both were always the top winners in the school. They said the school looked pretty similar to how it looks today. My mom said they were the first class to get lockers when she was in 8th grade. They had the same sports as we do now, but they also used to have a girls' cheerleading squad for the boys' basketball team. They also used to have a school band. Pastor Doug Hunter was their teacher and they played the flute and saxophone. They said the way they dressed was different. They used to French roll their jeans and use a lot of hair-spray. The girls hair would be really high. My uncle said he used to carry a briefcase around instead of a backpack. He said he wanted to be like Alex P. Keaton (aka Michael J. Fox). The dress code is more strict today than it was when they attended. So as you can read, for the most part, some of the things have changed, but many remain the same.

Niko Balaskas, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



Pastor Doug Hunter



Mrs. Lisa  
VanderSchaaf



Loretta Malmgren



# Grandparents Day

Every year we look forward to honoring and celebrating Grandparent's Day with our grandparents, parents, and teachers; and this year we did just that. First, the grandparents got to enjoy the pancake breakfast. Then, we went to the chapel and said the pledges. Next, some kids came up, including me, and answered some questions about worship. Worship is always enjoyed by everyone and this year was no different. Then Pastor Donald came up and presented his message. After that, we all went to our classrooms and had fun playing games with our grandparents. That was a really fun day. Plus, we had an early dismissal!

by Jeremy Faustin, 7th Grade



## Girls Volleyball

The volleyball team was really good this year. It was a little different because there were two teams, a varsity team and a junior varsity team. Varsity didn't win any games, unfortunately. The JV team, however, won a lot and we are very proud of them. We had a lot of fun this season and I got to meet a lot of new girls and have become good friends. We also learned a lot of new drills and we played our best. At the end of the season, we all played as a team and worked our hardest. I think that we all came together as friends and a team and had a lot of fun! There were a lot of girls on the team; there were 17 of us! I can't wait to play volleyball next year and excel in our games. We had a lot of close games like the one we had once; a home game against Grace. I like volleyball a lot; the team cheered each other on and we did our best. JV won third place, and V won 5th place, and I'm happy and proud of our team for the season! This year we had a really great conclusion to the girls' volleyball season! As you may know, the ACSI Tournament took place on October 19, 20, and 21. The girls were really excited, but nervous at the same time on the way there. Even though we tried our best and played our hardest, the varsity team was defeated and knocked from 2nd place to 3rd. The junior varsity team, however, was still in it to win it! They made every serve their best serve, and encouraged each other on the court. It was the final game, tied 25 to 25. Whoever got the next point would win the title of 3rd place champions. The Lions' supporters were in suspense. The whistle blew. An amazing serve by the Lions! A killer return, an awesome save, and...the Lions win!! The whole crowd cheered as all the lions jumped and screamed and yelled. The team received a trophy which is on display in the office. Remember to congratulate these girls and thank God for our victory!

by Allison Gillies & Adrienne Brown, 7th Grade





# SPIRIT WEEK & PEP ASSEMBLY

by Kristian Larimer, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

If you couldn't already tell, a couple weeks ago we had a Christian Hills Spirit Week. It started off Monday where we had to dress up as a cowboy or a cowgirl. On Tuesday, it was patriotic day where you had to dress up in red, white, or blue. The next day was dress to impress, and it was also the same day as Grandparents Day. The next day was blue and gold day and there was a Pep Assembly for the girls volleyball team. They did a bunch of their drills and warm-ups, while the whole school was cheering them on. There also was student and teacher participation. The final day of Spirit Week was called crayon day. You had to wear specifically one color, as if you were a crayon. Overall, this was a very fun week and I'm pretty sure that everyone enjoyed Spirit Week.



## BOYS BASKETBALL



The current school sport is the Boy's Basketball. The team consists of 2 groups; varsity and junior varsity (JV). Varsity is the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. The JV team is 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. There are a few differences, such as the refs are more strict in varsity compared to JV. Another one is, towards the end of every half, varsity is allowed to press. If you don't know what "press" means, it is basically defending before you pass the half-court line. The coaches this year are Coach Goss, Coach Vinson, and AJ Dawkins.

by Elijah Weeks, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



The amount raised from the LaBraid Fundraiser was \$6,400.00. That's quite a bit of money! The winner of the LaBraid fundraiser raffle was The Balaskas family. They won an I-pad. Congratulations, Balaskas family! The family that raised the most money was the Cleveland family with \$773.00. The students who achieved the right to attend the LaBraid Fundraiser lunch were Niko, Zoie, Gianni, and Taya Balaskas, Laurence and Laila Berry, Kameron Cleveland, Alivia Ekanem, Alyssa and Anthony Espano, Jeremy Faustin, Allison, Jady, and Olivia Gillies, Benjamin Gomez, Michael Hester, Gabriella and Frank Huisman, Elliana Jordan, Gage and

Abbey Kosloskus, Jayla Lightfoot, Mikayla and Caleb Mahalick, Matthew Mahalick, Temi Odukoya, Alison, Natalie and Anthony Pavoni, Ellie Rager, Gwen Stiles, Blake, Kylie, and Kayla Walters, Eli, Myah, and Emma Weeks, and Gabriella Wick. The Pizza Madness Lunch was held on November 1<sup>st</sup> in the gym during their lunch and recess time. All of the students that were eligible enjoyed pizza that was donated by Chick-fil-A and bounced in a bouncy house.

by Jackson Bergeron, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade





# Preschool Field Trip

by Aylissa Powell, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, our preschoolers went on a field trip to Lake Katherine. They saw so many interesting things like different kinds of animal pelts to show protection for the winter. They also learned about torpor vs. hibernation. Torpor is reduced body temperature and low body activity. Hibernation is the condition of an animal or plant spending the winter in a dormant state. They also saw both indoor and outdoor animals. The indoor animals were wet turtles, dry turtles, a huge toad, and other contained animals. The outdoor animals were ducks, geese, and beavers. The preschoolers enjoyed their field trip. Their favorite part of the whole day is the wagon ride around the lake.



## 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip Brookfield Zoo

Chicago Zoological Society

On Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes went on a field trip together. For their field trip, they visited Brookfield Zoo. Even though the weather was cool, it was a pleasant day for all the walking they did. I talked to each teacher separately to see what they did. The first teacher I spoke to was the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. Mrs. Admire said they walked around and visited all the different habitats. Her favorite animal was the bats. Then I spoke to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mrs. Bergeron. I asked her the same question. She said her favorite animal was the monkeys. Her students wanted to make sure they saw the monkeys and giraffes. They did take a break and stopped to eat lunch. After lunch, they got to play at the playground before going to see more animals. My favorite animals are the lions. What's yours?

by Marcello Gamboa, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child went well this year. We packed a total of 170 boxes! Many people gave and participated. There was so much stuff! When I packed a box, there was a lot to choose from. The items there were all kindly donated by the students, parents, and staff of this school and church. Along with the boxes we packed, we also colored pictures to be included with the boxes. The pictures were all really detailed, and about Christmas. The best part was knowing that the kids who get them are going to be really happy. Thank you to everyone for participating and helping out; especially to Kathy Rowley and Lori Huish for making sure this ministry happens every year.

by Ethan Blohm, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

This year, CHC once again had Trunk or Treat, and I think it was the best yet. They had many cars giving out candy. They also had a game where you had to get from base to base without getting hit with balls. Then, if you didn't want to participate in that, you could get Simply Slices Pizza or get your face painted. This year's Trunk or Treat was a huge success, and I hope they continue to succeed year after year for a very long time. The winner of the car decorating contest for best trunk was the Kane family; they had an amazing car. The funniest part of the entire day was the Conway family and the blow up dinosaurs. In conclusion, this was a great day and I hope they continue to have Trunk or Treat for many years.

by Phillip White, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade





# First Quarter Honor Roll 2017



## 1st Grade

### Honor Roll

Alivia Ekanem

### High Honor Roll

McKenzie Brown

Sophia Dewar

Noah Hendricks

Matthew Mahalick

Anastasia Maravillas

### Principal's Scholar Award

Jurni Jennings

Caleb Leary

Bella Lopez

Joel Mathew

Mason Mitchell

Manuel Peralta

Elynn Turner

## 2nd Grade

### Honor Roll

Laila Berry

### High Honor Roll

Taya Balaskas

David Dunn

Asher George

Joshua Goss

Abigail Longfellow

Amayah Muzeau

Isaac Nicol

Aesha Patel

Ethan Vinson

Kylie Walters

### Principal's Scholar Award

Nathan Abiona

Olivia Gillies

Frank Huisman

Abbey Kosloskus

Temi Odukoya

Natalie Pavoni

Kaylee Stewart

Gwen Stiles

Kayla Walters

## 3rd Grade

### Honor Roll

Summer Kane

Ahzjah Knight

Nathan Majchrzak

### High Honor Roll

Caitlyn Disser

Sydni Hardy

Makayla Harley

Joshua Jakes

Cole Leary

Alison Pavoni

Emma Weeks

### Principal's Scholar Award

Kendall Blohm

Juele Jennings

Chris Johnson

Gage Kosloskus

Solomon Mitchell

## 4th Grade

### Honor Roll

Anna Dunn

### High Honor Roll

Gianni Balaskas

Kennedy Brooks

Daniela Dodge

Charlotte Gauthier

Daniel Johnson

### Principal's Scholar Award

Annalyse Bergeron

Joseph Borkowsky

## 5th Grade

### Honor Roll

Caden Blohm

Kameron Cleveland

Jacob Leary

Joely MacRitchie

Blake Walters

### High Honor Roll

Chelsea Brooks

Jadyn Gillies

### Principal's Scholar Award

Alyssa Espano

Anthony Espano

Shama Patel

Dinum Watkins

## 6th Grade

### Honor Roll

Zoie Balaskas

Jacob Conway

Grace Wallace

### High Honor Roll

Gabriela Huisman

Terrence Ware

Myah Weeks

### Principal's Scholar Award

Jazmyn Nelson

Karalyn White

## 7th Grade

### Honor Roll

Jackson Bergeron

Ethan Blohm

Adrienne Brown

Marcello Gamboa

### High Honor Roll

Jeremy Faustin

### Principal's Scholar Award

Allison Gillies

## 8th Grade

### Honor Roll

Kristian Larimer

Phillip White

### High Honor Roll

Gabriel Conway

Louis Longfellow

### Principal's Scholar Award

Meher Swamy

## *Bible Verse of the Month*

"The Lord will surely comfort Zion  
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;  
he will make her deserts like Eden,

her wastelands like the garden of the Lord.  
Joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the sound of singing."

Is 51:3

Presented by LJ Berry, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



Christa McCartney is another CHC home grown missionary and is the daughter of Pastor and Mrs. McCartney. She decided to become a missionary after reading a book about the lost boys of Sudan as a child and knew she wanted to help the lost. After graduating from Christ for the Nations Institute in 2011, Christa then started working with Go to Nations that May. Her first mission field was in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, Africa. She began by working with a center for street boys. Christa has gone to many different countries in her quest to go where the Lord leads her and bring Christ into the lives of the lost. She also spent time at the International House of Prayer, Atlanta, learning how to train other missionaries. Her latest mission field is in Iloilo, Philippines training up children's workers in local churches. Christa has a heart to see the unreached children of the world be disciplined into the next generation of leaders and is very thankful for every opportunity to do this.

Contributions made by Ben Gomez, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



# Going Home



A Continuing Story by Gabe Conway, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

"Alright Brutus, let me educate you for a minute!" Trip said as Brutus sat down on a rock to listen. "If there is one thing I know about people, especially the king, it's that they all love MONEY! So, I suggest that we bait the king into opening the gate with some money!" Trip finished

\*One World-Wide heist later\*

"So, I'm gonna go over the plan one more time, so you don't mess it up!" Trip shouted at Brutus. "So, in our inconspicuous disguises, we are going to push the cart of goods into the town giving them to the king, but little does he know that we've rigged the cart with explosives! As we approach him, we reveal ourselves, and then, BOOM!" Trip finishes. "It's perfect!" Trip states as he lights the fuse, but as soon as it's lit, Brutus puts it out. Trip frowns at Brutus but then understands why. "Oh, riiiiiiight! We want to escape with our lives now, don't we? So let me go over it again." Trip inhales loudly as he begins, "Inconspicuous disguises, rigged cart, reveal our genius plan to the king, run as fast as we can out and then, BOOM!" Trip finishes yet again as he lights the fuse, only to be put out again. Trip is confused this time but Brutus points at the gold. Trip understands immediately and he begins yet again, "Alright! I got it this time, for sure! Inconspicuous, cart, genius plan, run and grab the gold and then, boom?" Trip finishes looking at Brutus. Brutus nods in agreement as Trip shouts with joy lighting the fuse.

With their disguises now on they approach the gate and knock. A guard answers with a yawn and proceeds to say, "Who is it?" Trip shouts at the top of his lungs, "Trip the Great and Brutus the Bulk!" Trip covers his mouth too late as the gate shuts and two other walls are added to cover it up. Brutus droops his head as he says, "Idiot."



## Air Jordan Retro 11 "Space Jams"



The Air Jordan Space Jams are a very iconic shoe. The style of these shoes was originally meant for basketball purposes. But over the years, hypebeasts (referring to a person who only buys shoes that are popular and cool) have been using them for everyday purposes turning them into a more hyped up shoe. In my personal opinion, this shoe has every right to be cool or "hype". It is comfortable, nice, and looks amazing. But that pretty much means its going to be expensive; even though it has every right to be. This shoe can cost up to \$400, depending on your size. But compared to shoes like the Nike Air Mags, Yeezy 350's, Pharrell Human Races, and many others, this shoe is cheap. This shoe is so good, though, they are currently making a 2018 pair. I think that's pretty amazing. Who knows, maybe the next review will be on those.

by Micaiah Klimek, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



# Movie Reviews



by Meher Swamy, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
*Thor Ragnarok* is a Marvel movie about Thor, the god of thunder. In this movie, he must stop Hela, the goddess of death, from taking over Asgard; which is the Norse heaven. He puts together a team of

"Revenagers" as he calls them. With the help of his father Odin's advice, his brother Loki, Odin's warrior Valkyrie, and The Hulk, he defeats Hela. This movie was definitely a thriller full of action-packed sequences and humor. It is rated PG-13 and some scenes and language may be too intense for younger viewers. Nevertheless, the movie is incredible and indeed marvelous. It also leaves you on a cliffhanger. Overall, anyone who is interested in the Marvel series must watch this movie.



by Louis Longfellow, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
*Only the Brave* is about a firefighting team called Granite Mountain Hotshots. They are the most advanced fire fighting teams in Arizona. They have developed a brotherhood relationship with each other. As a big fire breaks loose, and while others run away from the danger, these firefighters run to fight the fire. They need to do something or the fire will just get bigger in Yarnell, Arizona. Will they be brave enough to take down the fire? Will some lives be lost? You have to see this biographical drama to find out! *Only the Brave* is rated PG-13.



## Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving,  
 the winds are so pretty!

The table filled with food, joy and thanks.  
 Today we will cherish; we will not perish.

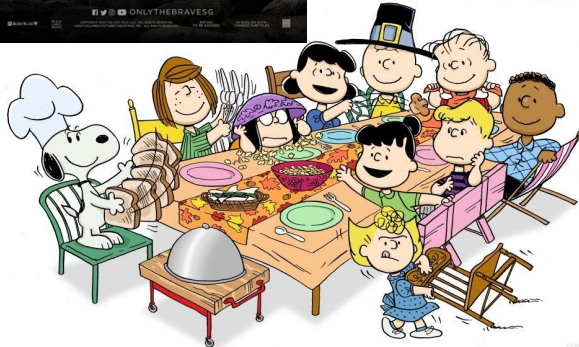
We will give, we will share,  
 and we will bare a day close to Christmas.

The turkeys, the ham, the jam!

Today we will have something fun before Christmas.

The best meal of the year,  
 for it, we will cheer!

An original poem by Zed Ruff, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



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7<sup>th</sup> Grade

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 Allison Gillies, Ben Gomez, Micaiah Klimek,  
 Zedekiah Ruff & Elijah Weeks

The articles written in this paper are written  
 primarily by the students of Christian Hills School  
 and don't necessarily express the views of CHC or CHS.